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1962

WHALEY BRIDGE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Reports

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 1961

WHALEY BRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT, 1961

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH and HOUSING COMMITTEE (Whole Council)

Chairman: Councillor J. Costigan

Councillor A.L. Attwood,

Councillor R.S. Bann,

Councillor A.E.B. Butler,

Councillor R. Drinkwater,

Councillor Mrs. F. Firth,

Councillor J.J. Jackson,

Councillor H.H. Littlewood, J.P., (Chairman of Council)

Councillor S. Nicholson,

Councillor T. Walsh,

Councillor A. West,

Councillor F.B. Woodward.

(As at 31st December, 1961)

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:

F.D.F. STEEDE, M.B.,B.Ch.,D.P.H.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall, Buxton. (Tel. 2060)

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector:

A. McLANE, A.R.S.H.,M.A.P.H.I.

Assistant to Surveyor and Public Health Inspector:

B. FOSTER

Meat Inspectors: (Part-time)

C.E. HALL, M.R.C.V.S.

and

N. SALISBURY, M.R.C.V.S.

Council Offices, Whaley Bridge.

Telephone: Whaley Bridge 163.

WHALEY BRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year, 1961.

Public Health Department,

Tel. No. Buxton 2060 Town Hall,

Buxton.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my fourth Annual Report for the year 1961. The report is compiled on similar lines to that of last year to comply with Ministry of Health requirements.

The main industries in the area are those connected with the cotton trade, e.g. weaving, bleaching and calico printing and quite a large number of wage earners, with a high proportion of women, find their employment therein. Many also find their livelihood in various ways in the nearby highly industrialised conurbations. On the whole the level of employment has been satisfactory but there is some uneasiness with regard to the future, since the prosperity of the district is, at present, overwhelmingly linked with the cotton industry.

The figures supplied by the Registrar General form the basis of the vital statistics, which bear out the general impression that the standard of health of the district is good. The population figure is virtually unchanged and has shown little variation for a number of years.

The death rate, I am sorry to say, shows an increase, with a rate when adjusted of 13.7 based on 70 deaths or 20 more than last year; however, this death rate must be set against the figure of 9.9 for the previous year which was well below the national average. As regards the deaths which have occured all forms of heart disease together with vascular lesions of the nervous system account for 38 or over 50%. Deaths from malignant disease show an increase this year of nearly 50% with a total of 15, i.e. 7 more than the previous year. I am glad to say, however, that there was only one death from lung cancer as against 4 in the preceeding year. This reduction must not lead to any complacency locally in our drive to discourage the young from acquiring the cigarette smoking habit. I feel that the report on Smoking and Health by the Royal College of Physicians which has recently been published will lead to a more ready acceptance by the general public of the association between smoking and lung cancer. This report, however, goes further and associates smoking of cigarettes with other important conditions notably chronic bronchitis, coronary heart disease and an adverse effect on an established gastric or duodenal ulcer. Of these the association between chronic bronchitis and cigarette smoking is, from the Public Health aspect, the most important since this disease is extremely wide-spread and plays a considerable part in lowering the efficiency of the working population in middle and early old age.

Infant mortality for the third year is in excess of the national average but the rates are calculated on such small figures as to be of little or no significance as the table which covers the last five years clearly indicates.

During the year there was a very extensive outbreak of measles throughout the district, but I am glad to say no death occured. In the early part of the year there was a smart outbreak of influenza and material sent to the virus laboratory at Sheffield resulted in the isolation of the type A virus which was prevalent throughout the country at that time.

One death occurred due to traffic accidents and another due to a home accident, and I am glad to say that the Council have been taking considerable interest in the possibility of the formation of a Home Safety Committee locally.

Water supply which was undertaken by the Stockport Corporation throughout the year is due to pass to the foreshadowed Stockport and District Water Board with effect from 1st April, 1962.

As regards sewerage, difficulties have occurred and which are referred to in more detail elsewhere in the report, as a result of the surcharging of sewers and this matter is currently being taken up with the Joint Sewerage Board.

As reported last year housing generally is reasonably satisfactory but there is a considerable proportion of terrace type property in which the amenities are not consistent with present day requirements. In many cases they can be improved with the aid of one or other of the Improvement Grants available but in spite of much publicity inadequate use has so far been made of them. In some cases, where there is insufficient room for the provision of bathroom facilities it is possible to provide reasonable housing accommodation by, as has been done in some cases, converting two houses into one, or three into two and this is the sort of conversion which the Council themselves might consider if they were to acquire the property.

During the year a contract was allocated for the erection of fifeteen aged persons bungalows in conjunction with the County Council Warden Schemes and this is certainly a step in the right direction for although the Council's general waiting list for houses is not very long the proportion of old persons on the list is high. I am glad to be able to say that the Council as a whole are very much aware of the needs of their older residents and have done a great deal directly and indirectly to ensure that such facilities as are required are obtained whenever possible.

In conclusion I should like to express my sincere thanks to the Members of the Council for the Kindness and consideration which they have shown to me, and to all the Officers and Staff of the Council for their unfailing support and co-operation.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

F.D.F. STEEDE

Medical Officer of Health.

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area of Whaley Bridge Urban District (in acres) .	3,487
Estimated Population (mid 1961)	5,290
Number of Inhabited Houses, end of 1961	1,940
Rateable Value.	£ 60,821
Value of Penny Rate	£ 243

Vital Statistics.	M.	F.	
Live Births - Legitimate.	42	29	71
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Total	43	29	72
Live Birth rate per 1,000 population	13.6		
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births .	1.4		
Stillbirths - Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate.	-	-	-
Total	1	-	1
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths .	13.7		
Total live and stillbirths	44	29	73
Deaths.	38	32	70
Death rate per 1,000 population	13.2		
Infant Deaths (Under one year of age) Legitimate.	1	2	3
Illegitimate.	-	-	-
Total	1	2	3

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births . . . 41.7
Leg. " " " " " legitimate live births 42.3
Illeg. " " " "illegitimate " " NIL

	M.	F.	
Neonatal Deaths (Under four weeks).	1	2	3

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births . . 41.7

	M.	F.	
Early Neonatal Deaths (under one week)	1	1	2

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births 27.8
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths). 41.1
Maternal deaths (including abortion) . . . . . NIL
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths NIL

	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.
Infant Deaths	2.	1.	2.	4.	3.
Infant Mortality Rate	37,7	13.7	30.3	60.6	41.7

Deaths from Malignant Neoplasm (all ages)	15
" " Measles (all ages)	-
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	-
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1
" " Respiratory Diseases	7

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(a) Laboratory Facilities: Pathological and Bacteriological investigation are carried out at the County Public Health laboratory, 121a, Osmaston Road, Derby (Tel. Derby 45597). Chemical analysis is carried out at the County Analyst's Department, Matlock (Tel. Matlock 3411).

(b) Ambulance Facilities: This is a County Council service with an ambluance stationed at:

Park Road, Buxton. (Tel. 2021)

Park Road, New Mills. (Tel. 3333)

Talbot House, Talbot Road, Glossop. (Tel. 3101)

(c) Nursing in the Home: This service is administered by the County Council.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres:

Name and Situation	Clinic held	By whom provided
Child Welfare Clinic, Church Hall, Buxton Road, Whaley Bridge.	Wednesday 1.30 to 4.15	Derbyshire County Council.
Eye Clinic, High Lea Hall, New Mills.	4th Tuesday each month.	Derbyshire County Council.
Chest Clinic, Great Egerton Street, Stockport.	Monday 2 - 4	Regional Hospital Board.
Veneral Disease Clinic, Great Egerton Street, Stockport.	Monday - Saturday.	Regional Hospital Board.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN WHALEY BRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT

DURING YEAR 1961

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Total
All Causes	38	32	70
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2. " other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
4. Diptheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis...	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases..	-	-	-
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	-	1	1
11. " " lung, bronchus ...	1	-	1
12. " " breast	-	1	1
13. " " uterus	-	1	1
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	7	3	10
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	1	1
16. Diabetes	-	2	2
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...	9	7	16
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	10	2	12
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease... ...	-	-	-
20. Other Heart Disease	1	8	9
21. " Circulatory Disease...	1	1	2
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	1	1	2
24. Bronchitis	4	1	5
25. Other Disease of Respiratory System ...	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	-	1
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	-	1	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia or Prostrate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion... ...	-	-	-
31. Congenital Malformations	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined Diseases..	1	2	3
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-	1
34. All other Accidents	1	-	1
35. Suicide	-	-	-
36. Homicide and Operations of War	-	-	-

Comparison with England and Wales

	Per 1,000 Population		Per 1,000 Live Births	Per 1,000 Total births.
	Live Births (Adjusted.)	Death Rate (Adjusted)	Infantile Mortality	Still-births
Whaley Bridge	14.0	13.7	41.7	13.7
England and Wales	17.4	12.0	21.4	18.7

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47

AS AMENDED BY THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.

No action was taken under these powers.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Inspections throughout the area under the various Acts appertaining to Public Health were regularly carried out and any appropriate action taken when necessary.

Water Supply

Although the Council is no longer responsible for the production and distribution of water, bacteriological samples will continue to be taken at regular intervals.

Clean Air Act

It has not been thought practicable to recommend to the Council, due to the shortage of staff, that measurements should be taken to assess the degree of atmospheric pollution locally. There is no doubt, however, that since industry locally has now by and large put its house in order that most of the undoubted local nuisance is caused by domestic smoke.

FOOD

Food Poisoning Outbreaks

No case of food poisoning has been reported.

Food Hygiene in the district can be considered to be reasonably good in spite of the difficulties of inadequate supervision due to lack of staff and the pressure of other urgent duties.

Meat inspection is undertaken by arrangements with a firm of local veterinary surgeons and is believed to be virtually 100%. Slaughtering is carried on in three slaughterhouses and will continue until the new Hygiene and Cruelty Regulations come wholly into force in October, 1962. Postponement from the original date, 1st January, 1962, was made by the Council and agreed to by the Minister due to delay in the reconstruction of the slaughterhouse, which alone will be in operation after that date.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	231	25	16	1248	60	-
Number inspected	231	25	16	1248	60	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysterci:						
Whole carcases condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	3	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	1.3%	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcases condemned	-	1	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	13	19	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	5.6%	80%	-	-	-	-
Cysticercosis:						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

HOUSING.

At the end of the year the Council had 331 houses and bungalows. Of this number, 216 houses and 14 bungalows had been erected during the post war years, whilst during the same period 73 private houses were built.

The number of applicants for council houses at the end of the year was 43 of whom 12 were resident outside the area. The demand for aged persons bungalows still continues to increase and there were 65 applicants on the waiting list.

During the year no new council houses were built and although a contract was let for the erection of 15 aged persons bungalows on the Park Road site, work did not proceed and the Council were forced to make alternative arrangements. It was finally decided to erect 15 "Homeville" bungalows on the site, and these are hoped to be completed in the summer of 1962.

During the year under review the Council approved schemes for Standard Improvement Grants in respect of 15 houses and Discretionary Grants in respect of 2 houses and authorised the giving of grants amounting to £1,637. Three only of the grants were given to owners in respect of tenanted houses.

No case of statutory overcrowding was reported during the year.

SEWERAGE

The sewerage is conveyed through the Council's sewers to the sewerage disposal works at Furness Vale, the treatment being carried out by the Whaley Bridge Joint Sewerage Board. Cleansing rodding and general repairs to sewers have been carried out as and when necessary to maintain in good condition. Enlargements are necessary to some main sewers in the area to cope with the drainage from additional properties, modernisation schemes to older properties, and the additional trade effluents and it is hoped that the Joint Sewerage Board will undertake the reorganisation of the works and main sewers at an early date. Occasional nuisances have been occurring at Horwich End due to the surcharging of the 9" sewer on Lower Macclesfield Road after heavy rainfalls. During these exceptional periods the sewage backs up the gullies in the yards of the lower lying properties on Macclesfield Road, causing the yard areas to be flooded with sewage. This trouble seems to be aggrevated by a "bottle neck" on the main sewerage system where separate 9" sewers from (a) the Macclesfield Road area (b) Buxton Road area and (c) Chapel Road area, converge into a 12" sewer at Horwich End. It is hoped that Whaley Bridge Joint Sewerage Board will take steps to remove the restriction at this point with a minimum of delay to avoid further nuisance at these properties.

No extensions to sewers were carried out during the year.

Nearly all properties within the district are sewered excepting those in the outlying areas of Fernilee and Cadster.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The collection of household refuse was carried out by direct labour using a Karrier Gamecock Refuse Collection vehicle.

The Council have continued to maintain a regular fortnightly service for the collection of refuse, the refuse being tipped on the Council's refuse tip at Fernilee.

The contours of the site make the control of tipping most difficult and an improvement of conditions is much desired.

RAG FLOCK ACT

There are no premises within the urban area where rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASE - GENERAL

No case of diptheria or poliomyelitis occurred during the year. However, with regard to figures kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer which show that only 30 primary courses of prophylaxis against diptheria were completed during the year there can be no complacency. The aim must be 100% and we are a very long way short of the target. Many of the young mothers to-day need to be reminded that diptheria is a disease with a very high rate of mortality and for which the best solution is prevention by active immunization. These facilities combining immunization against whooping cough and tetanus are readily available free and can be obtained from either the family doctor or County Council Clinic.

During the year there were ninety-five cases of measles notified, all in the first three-quarters of the year, with the peak of the epidemic in the second quarter.

Influenza in epidemic form occurred in January. On the whole, though the disease was widespread in both adults and children, it was less severe in the latter and school attendance, though affected, never dropped below a figure of 50%. I am glad to say no death occurred and one case of pneumonia and influenza was notified.

TUBERCULOSIS - NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1961

No new cases or deaths were notified during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES FOR THE YEAR 1961

Disease.	Total Cases Notified (all ages)	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths	Analysis of Total Cases in age groups.												
				Under 1 Year	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-59	60- and over	Age Unknown
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) . . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia. . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	95	-	-	4	5	7	13	12	50	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases notifiable locally . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

WHALEY BRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT ON THE SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st December, 1961.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Whaley Bridge Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report on the sanitary conditions and a brief summary of work done during the year ended 31st December, 1961.

Housing.

Number of houses in district at 31st December, 1960	-	1931.
New Houses erected during the year by:-		
(a) Local Authority	-	Nil.
(b) Private Enterprise	-	9.
		1940.
Number of houses demolished or closed during 1961	-	Nil.
Number of houses in area at 31st December, 1961	-	1940.
Number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	-	94.
Number of dwellinghouses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	-	22.
Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	-	5.
Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of action by local authority (formal or informal)	-	17.
Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	-	Nil.
Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	-	Nil.
Number of dwellings in respect of which undertakings were accepted	-	Nil.
Number of premises in respect of which Closing Orders were made	-	5.

Closet Accommodation in the Area.

Houses with pail closet accommodation	-	25.
Houses with privy accommodation	-	7.
Houses with W.C. closet accommodation	-	1908.
Houses converted during year from pail closet to W.C. accommodation	-	4.

Sanitary Inspections.

Number of inspections made under Public Health, Housing Acts, etc.	-	1228.
Defects or Nuisances:-		
Number discovered	-	273.
Number abated with or without Notice	-	266.
Number of Notices served:-		
Informal Notices	-	32.
Statutory Notices	-	Nil.
Legal Proceedings	-	Nil.

Details of Inspections:-	Inspections.	Nuisances abated.
Defective Closet Accommodation	75	29
Defective Ashbins or Ashpits	38	14
Drainage Defects	214	124
Housing Repairs	273	37
Offensive Accumulations	10	3
Urinals	56	-
Flooding of Cellars	16	5
Foul Condition of Houses	7	-
Animals improperly kept	6	-
Slaughterhouses	37	2
Bakehouses	8	-
Factories and Workshops	81	2
Shops and Food Premises	83	1
Rodent Control	128	34
Moveable Dwellings	24	1
Other Inspections	172	14

DRAINAGE.

Number of houses in district connected to sewers	-	1764
Number of houses in district not connected to sewers	-	176
Number of houses connected to main sewerage system during year	-	9

FACTORIES.

There are 37 Factories and Workshops on the area, the number of inspections and action taken being given in the following table:-

Premises	Inspections	Notices Served.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories (With Mechanical Power)	43	-	-
Factories (Without Mechanical Power)	38	-	-
Other Premises	-	-	-

Defects found in Factories were as follows:-

Particulars.	Number of Defects.		
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred by H.M. Inspector.
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	2	1
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-
(d) Other offences against the Act	-	-	-

OUTWORK.

Number of outworkers on Register - 5.
(All outworkers are engaged on sewing)
Number of cases of work undertaken on unwholesome premises - Nil.

FOOD INSPECTION.

During the year the following foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered and condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

Foodstuffs	Tins/Bottles/Packs	Wt. (to nearest lb.)
Kippers	1	14 lbs.
Corned Beef	4	24 lbs.
Ham	4	49 lbs.
Other Meat Products	3	7 lbs.
Fruit and Vegetables	25	32 lbs.
Milk Products	27	13 lbs.
Fish	13	6 lbs.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Details of houses supplied with water at 31st December, 1961.

		Estimated population.
Number of houses in district supplied with water from mains	1913	5216.
Number of houses supplied with water from standpipes	Nil.	
Number of houses supplied with water from private sources	27.	74.

I am, Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. McLane,

Public Health Inspector.